

ARKANSAS BROILER HATCHERY



ARKANSAS
AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

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NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE
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ARKANSAS CHICK PLACEMENTS UP 1 PERCENT FROM LAST YEAR

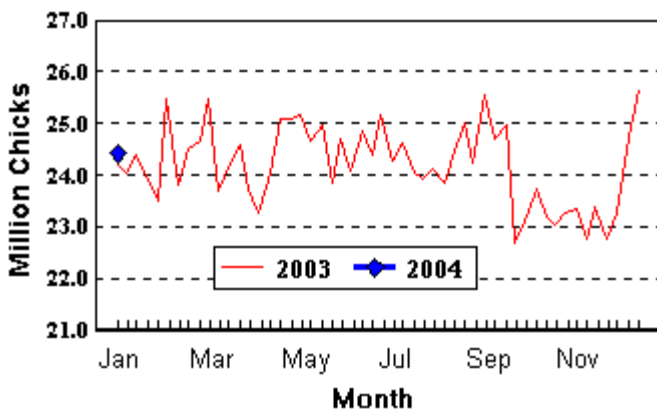
Broiler-type chicks placed for meat production in Arkansas was 24.5 million during the week ending January 3, 2004. Placements were up 1 percent from the comparable week in 2002, but down 5 percent from the revised previous week, and included 2.1 million chicks shipped in from other states.

The broiler-type chicks hatched for the week was 25.5 million, up 2 percent from the corresponding week a year earlier, but down slightly from the previous week. Of the total hatch, 2.7 million chicks were shipped out of the state. Average hatchability for chicks hatched was 82.1 percent.

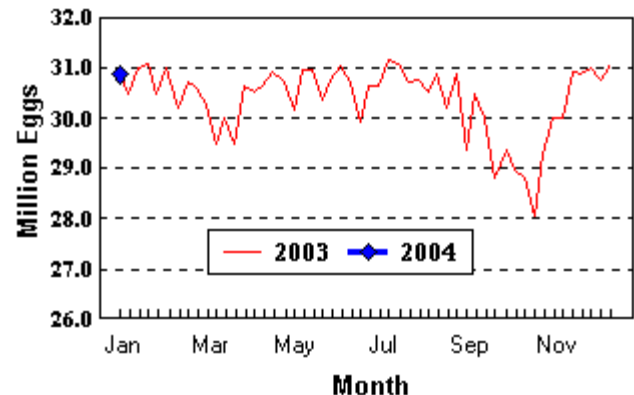
Arkansas hatcheries set 30.9 million broiler-type eggs during the week ending January 3, 2004, up fractionally from the same period last year, but down 1 percent from the previous week.

Week Ending	NET PLACEMENTS			CHICKS HATCHED			EGGS SET		
	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change	2002-2003	2003-2004	% Change
	<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>			<i>1,000</i>		
Nov. 29	21,996	23,381	106	23,319	24,188	104	29,362	30,923	105
Dec. 6	23,291	22,786	98	24,209	24,832	103	29,336	30,882	105
Dec. 13	24,762	23,280	94	24,415	25,142	103	30,240	30,992	102
Dec. 20	23,254	24,764	106	24,244	25,552	105	30,054	30,777	102
Dec. 27	23,721	25,698	108	24,193	25,519	105	29,870	31,091	104
Jan. 3	24,244	24,457	101	24,836	25,455	102	30,873	30,893	100

CHICKS PLACED IN ARKANSAS, 2003-2004



EGGS SET, 2003 - 2004



BROILER EGGS SET AND CHICKS PLACED IN 19 MAJOR STATES BY WEEKS, 2003

STATE	EGGS SET (in Thousands)					CHICKS PLACED (in Thousands)						
	Week Ending				1/ %	Week Ending						1/ %
	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	03-Jan		29-Nov	06-Dec	13-Dec	20-Dec	27-Dec	03-Jan	
Alabama	29,633 *	29,447 *	29,725 *	29,693	103	21,133	21,822	21,878	21,230 *	21,883 *	21,775	102
ARKANSAS	30,992	30,777	31,091	30,893	100	23,381	22,786	23,280	24,764	25,698 *	24,457	101
Delaware	3,805	3,777	3,696 *	3,678	102	6,159	4,892	4,689	4,857	4,230 *	4,201	86
Florida	1,354	1,353	1,353	1,329	85	1,809	1,644	1,420	1,827	1,703	1,736	111
Georgia	33,453 *	32,237 *	32,909 *	33,440	109	24,971	25,137	24,680 *	25,971 *	26,178 *	26,279	107
Kentucky	6,768	6,786 *	6,716 *	6,595	104	5,051	5,432	5,849	5,750 *	5,654 *	5,805	112
Maryland	8,868	8,884	8,793 *	8,858	92	5,243	5,299	5,942	6,101	6,495 *	6,470	106
Mississippi	19,396	19,182	18,908	19,073	101	15,146	15,738	15,804	16,328	16,463	16,528	106
N. Carolina	18,145 *	18,046	17,187	17,861	96	14,130	14,550	14,354	14,608	13,481	14,162	98
Oklahoma	6,371	6,442	6,213 *	6,263	98	4,476	5,858	5,512	4,383	3,879 *	5,505	123
Pennsylvania	3,633 *	3,745 *	3,838 *	3,741	104	2,674	2,663	2,700 *	2,650 *	2,642 *	2,509	97
S. Carolina	3,861	3,517	3,614	3,659	77	4,294	4,273	3,842	4,469	3,928	3,776	92
Texas	13,879	14,882	14,631	14,322	98	12,276	12,030	12,292	12,356	11,822	11,457	96
Virginia	6,349	6,325	6,174	6,220	98	4,527	5,822	5,285	5,131	4,896 *	5,386	101
CA,LA,MO,TN,WV	20,593 *	20,556	20,463	20,629	105	19,141	19,868	19,252 *	19,320 *	18,909 *	17,942	99
Total 2003	207,100 *	205,956 *	205,311 *	206,254		164,411	167,814	166,779 *	169,745 *	167,861 *	167,988	
Total 2002	203,251	200,056	201,018	204,119		161,690	161,841	163,147	164,898	162,414	164,413	
%Prev. Year	102	103	102	101		102	104	102	103	103	102	
Approximate Marketing Date 2004.....						17-Jan	24-Jan	31-Jan	07-Feb	14-Feb	21-Feb	

* Revised. 1/ Current week as percent of the same week last year.

EGGS SET IN 19 SELECTED STATES UP 1 PERCENT

Commercial hatcheries in the 19-state weekly program set 206 million eggs during the week ending January 3, 2003. This was up 1 percent from the eggs set the corresponding week a year earlier. Average hatchability for chicks hatched during the week was 83 percent. Average hatchability is calculated by dividing chicks hatched during the week by eggs set three weeks earlier.

BROILER CHICKS PLACED UP 2 PERCENT

Broiler growers in the 19-state weekly program placed 168 million chicks for meat production during the week ending January 3, 2003. Placements were up 2 percent from the comparable week a year earlier.